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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

16 December 1947

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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From: Information Control, OSO

Country: Germany (Russian Zone)

Subject: Sokolovski's Pronouncements on German Unity

Date of Info: [redacted]

Evaluation: [redacted]

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Sokolovski's Pronouncements on German Unity

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1.

[redacted]

2. Dr. Paul advocated the formation of a German commission made up of leaders from all political parties and all occupation zones to present a proclamation to the Conference of Foreign Ministers in London in November. This proclamation was to be issued in the name of sixty five million Germans and was to stress the need for German political unity and a central government. After Dr. [redacted]

3.

[redacted]

4.

5.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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Other Evidence of Russian Intentions to Establish a Separate Russian Zone Government

6. During February and March 1947, Kolesnichenko had several conferences with Dr. Paul and his ministers requesting their agreement to a general strengthening of the Central Administration in Berlin. This was to receive the right to speak for the entire Russian occupation zone, permission to send representatives to the Lands to discuss internal Land problems, etc. Although the Land governments, including Thuringia, disapproved of this measure, they were overruled, and the general economic direction of the entire Soviet Zone was turned over to the Central Administration and the political direction to the Central Secretariat of SED.

7. In March 1947 Kolesnichenko called a conference to discuss measures which would strengthen the Russian Zone border police; the participants were General Belyavskii, Major General Smirnov; Colonel Kortunov, Lt. Colonel Ivanov, Deputy Minister-President Eggerath, Chief of Thuringian Police Rausch, and his deputy Jones. The conference decided that special police units, numbering approximately 900 in Thuringia, were to be created and should receive the best possible equipment, special transportation facilities, extra clothing, and every type of support from the Russians.

8. Other indications [redacted] that the Russians plan to establish an independent Eastern Zone include their attitude toward the Munich Conference, their constant refusal to permit the establishment of a central German court (Reichsgericht), their constant smear barrage against the West conducted by everyone from Kolesnichenko down to the last SED functionary, and the founding of Derunapht as a joint Russian-German fuel corporation, according to Semenenko (GMA Berlin representative for fuels), "to compete with Western Germany." In addition [redacted] Kolesnichenko's repeated statement [redacted] that the London Conference would not settle German unity.

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